Executive Froclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Nearly 43 years ago, a shy Mildred Stuessi was persuaded by her mother to accompany her to an Adult League meeting. Also present, against his better Judgment, was Francis Espeland, persuaded by his sister to be in attendance; and,

WHEREAS, Following that first encounter, Francis asked Mildred for a date on July 7, 1943. They spent the evening in Alcester, as the stores were open on Wednesday nights; and,

WHEREAS, Many dates followed for Mildred and Francis, usually taking place in Hawarden, lowa, at a show or out to eat. Mildred found Francis to be very polite and nice, and Francis undoubtedly liked what he saw in Mildred's company, for in May of 1944, he asked her to spend the rest of her life with him. She accepted the proposal; and,

WHEREAS, Zion Church, rural Beresford, was the setting for the blessed union of Francis and Mildred on April 18, 1946, at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the home of the bride for approximately 60 guests. The happy couple then left for a two-day honeymoon in Sloux Falls; and,

WHEREAS, The following years found Mildred and Francis on a farm north of Alcester. Besides Francis' long hours in the field and caring for the livestock, and Mildred's homemaking duties, the marriage was blessed with the births of their three children, Jim In 1948; JoAnn In 1951; and Gloria In 1956; and,

WHEREAS, On April 18, 1986, Mildred and Francis will celebrate 40 years of marriage:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 18, 1986, as

MILDRED AND FRANCIS DAY

in South Dakota, and I join their many friends, relatives, and especially their children and grandchildren, in wishing them many more years of good health and happiness.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this First Day of April, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Six

WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

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